

Powering Transparency: IATI's Role in Enhancing Accountability and Driving Impact

Transparency is more critical than ever in today's complex global aid and development landscape. This report highlights how IATI's real-time, project-level data empowers governments, finance providers and civil society to drive effective decisions, ensuring scarce resources meet the needs of people and the planet.

Much done: How IATI has enhanced transparency in the development system

Global membership of 100+ organisations

IATI was established in 2008 with 14 founding signatories at the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, in Accra. Today IATI has grown to include a membership of over 100 governments, multilateral institutions and civil society and private sector organisations committed to global transparency.

IATI now captures two-thirds Official Development Assistance

New analysis this year shows that two-thirds of official development assistance (ODA) is now represented in IATI data. This means many of the world's largest donors are providing timely, project-level financial information, vital for improving the visibility and predictability of aid for recipient countries.

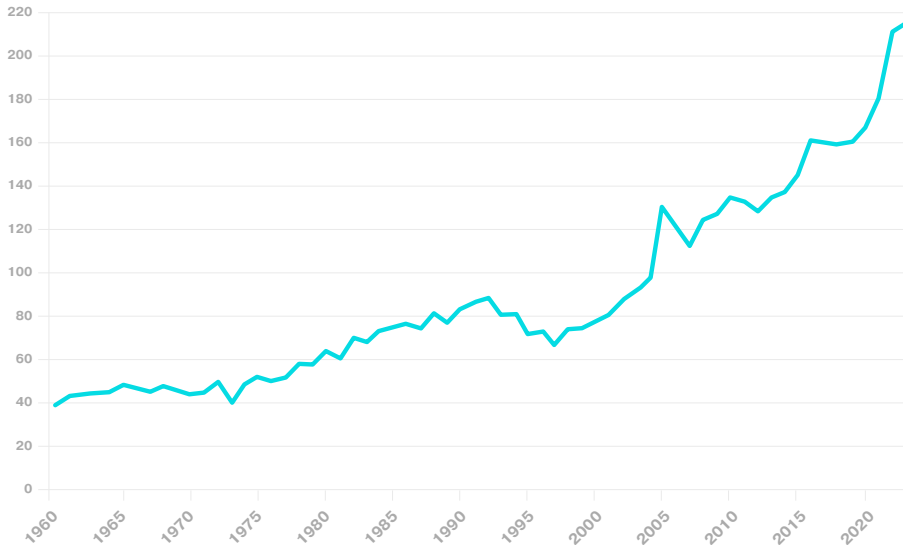
IATI data used by 19 partner country governments

In countries like Chad, Liberia and Nigeria, IATI data has directly informed national budget planning, development cooperation reports, and Aid Information Management Systems. In 2023, 19 developing country governments reported using IATI data, surpassing IATI's target for the year of 14.



Figure 1: official development assistance provided by OECD represented by IATI data¹

ODA, USD billions



Today, analysis shows two-thirds of official development assistance provided by OECD donors is represented in IATI.

Transparency achieved on USD 3.5 trillion

Since its launch in 2011, the IATI Standard has become a vital framework for transparency, with over **1,700** diverse organisations publishing data on more than a million projects, resulting in open access to **USD 3.5 trillion** in spending.

OVER 1700 IATI PUBLISHERS

- Donor governments
- Multilateral organisations
- Development finance institutions
- Philanthropic foundations
- Fund managers
- International non-governmental organisations
- National non-governmental organisations
- Private sector organisations
- Academic, training and research organisations

Donors trace implementation of aid through IATI

Donor governments are using IATI to trace the implementation of their aid by introduced mandatory rules for organisations receiving funds to publish IATI data. The United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark require organisations who receive aid to publish information about where they spend their funds and how, to IATI.

IATI endorsed in international commitments

The IATI Standard has been endorsed by key international agreements, such as the 2011 Busan Partnership and 2016 Grand Bargain, driving global donors and humanitarian actors to publish transparent, timely aid data. This commitment extends to the UN Secretary General, with over 60% of UN agencies now sharing financial data through IATI, supporting efforts like food security planning and crisis response (see GAFS case study).

¹ <https://deepnote.com/workspace/Open-Data-Services-Cooperative-46a54078-1c9e-4c25-b08c-69c3957de83a/project/Flow-Type-6774294e-d80b-4798-a4e0-7f1039893fef/notebook/Commitment-vs-Flow-303d999f1d3c486694e4be448cfcb0970>



Transparency in Action: Use cases of IATI data

Powering rapid responses to food and nutritional insecurity

Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS)

IATI has worked with GAFS to track over 7,000 activities and 43,000 transactions related to global food and nutrition security, and this IATI data is published online: [Global Food and Nutrition Security Dashboard](#). This collaboration has also contributed to Food Security Crisis Preparedness Plans in 25 countries, enabling real-time tracking of funding and resource allocation to help save lives.

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Tracking development cooperation across Nigeria

Federal Ministry of Finance,
Budget, and National Planning,
Federal Government of Nigeria

The Government of Nigeria utilises IATI data to inform budget decisions and monitor development cooperation, with 158 organisations publishing data in 2023 on projects totalling over USD 5 billion. In 2024, the Nigeria Development Cooperation Dashboard was launched, mapping IATI data to the National Development Plan pillars and Sustainable Development Goals, enhancing resource visibility and alignment.

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Measuring sustainable development across Africa

African Development Bank

The African Development Bank leverages IATI data to monitor the impact of its investments, publishing detailed information on over 5,500 development projects across 17,000 locations, amounting to over USD 184 billion. This data is showcased on [MapAfrica](#), which tracks how the Bank's strategic [High 5 Priorities](#) are being realised across the continent

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Driving access to data across Latin America and the Caribbean

CAF – Development Bank of Latin America
and the Caribbean

CAF joined IATI in 2024, publishing data on over 150 development activities across 14 countries, totaling over USD 5 billion, to promote transparency and regional cooperation. This aligns with their 2023 launch of the Access to Information and Institutional Transparency Program, driving progress towards shared development goals.

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Making overseas development assistance accountable in the Netherlands

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Government of the Netherlands

The Netherlands was among the first governments to publish aid data using the IATI Standard, ensuring billions of dollars in overseas development assistance remain transparent and accountable. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reinforces this by requiring over 500 implementing partners to publish IATI data, enabling clear tracking of funding, activities, and results.

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The Road Ahead: How can IATI renew trust and elevate development effectiveness?

The global development and humanitarian landscape has shifted dramatically since IATI's inception. Going forward, the initiative can play an important role in revitalising the transparency movement – essential for renewing trust and elevating development effectiveness.

Transparency for improving trust

In an era where public trust in institutions is declining, transparency initiatives like IATI are more critical than ever. IATI builds trust and empowers individuals by giving them access to information they need to hold decision-makers and institutions accountable. Academic research by Heinzl, Reinsberg, and Swedlund (2024) provides evidence that greater transparency (including IATI publication) by government increases support for aid.

Reaffirming IATI's mission in an evolving ODA landscape

The growing complexity in the aid landscape presents an important case for IATI to continue delivering on its original commitment of capturing “timely, and comparable” information on aid. ODA expenditure is at a record high (USD 223.7 billion in 2023) and has experienced drastic shifts in allocation (least developed and/or low-income share of ODA fell from 31% in 2022 to 24% in 2023).

IATI data driving development effectiveness

Making data available is just one step towards promoting transparency in international aid. For IATI to be truly impactful, the data must be used to improve the effectiveness and accountability of aid delivery. Efforts must be made to sustain and accelerate the positive trend towards systematic use of IATI data by development and humanitarian actors, as well as by civil society.

Commitment to transparency at Financing for Development (FFD4)

To finance the SDG gap of USD 4.2 trillion by 2030, resources are being sought far beyond aid. At the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (Spain, June 2025), IATI is advocating for all resources towards sustainable development to be published to IATI. This will help ensure decision makers and the public, crucially at country level have access to timely, project level open data to ensure these resources are delivered in the most effective way.

Tracking climate financing to developing countries

Over 200 organisations already publish data on their climate mitigation and adaptation actions through IATI. Developing countries can leverage IATI's capabilities to trace, standardise, and provide open data, offering a valuable tool to enhance transparency and accountability in global climate action. With COP29 agreeing on a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for climate finance, transparency should play a central role in tracking how the USD 300 billion annual pledge for developing countries is mobilised and implemented.